

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA  
STATESVILLE DIVISION  
CIVIL ACTION NO. 5:19-CV-00069-KDB-DCK**

**DONNA ROWLAND AND  
BARRY ROWLAND,**

**Plaintiffs,**

**v.**

**MINNESOTA LIFE INSURANCE  
COMPANY; GLOBAL  
FINANCIAL PRIVATE  
CAPITAL, LLC; SANDY  
MORRIS FINANCIAL & ESTATE  
PLANNING SERVICES, LLC;  
GF INVESTMENT SERVICES,  
LLC; AND SANDEVA O'BRYAN  
MORRIS,**

**Defendants.**

**ORDER**

**THIS MATTER** is before the Court on Defendants Sandy Morris Financial & Estate Planning Services, LLC and Sandeva O'Bryan Morris' (the "Morris Defendants") Motion to Stay (Doc. No. 56). The Court has carefully considered this motion and the parties' briefs and exhibits. While the Court believes that the basis for the Morris Defendants' appeal could be considered frivolous<sup>1</sup> and the Court is reluctant to halt the progress of this action towards a timely resolution

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<sup>1</sup> The Morris Defendants' argument on appeal rests on the remarkable assertion that a sequentially numbered page (page 15), which is plainly marked "Asset Management Agreement (Version 7/21/17)" like every other page of the Asset Management Agreement, and contains material information on "Risk Tolerance" and "Investment Objective" which the parties agreed would govern how the Plaintiffs' account would be managed, (*see* Doc. No. 36-6 at p.1), is nevertheless not "incorporated into" the Asset Management Agreement. (*See* Doc. No. 43 at ¶ 14).

on the merits, Plaintiffs have withdrawn their objection to the requested stay; therefore, the Court will **GRANT** the motion.

**NOW THEREFORE IT IS ORDERED THAT:**

1. The Morris Defendants' Motion to Stay (Doc. No. 56) **GRANTED; and**
2. This matter is stayed pending the Morris Defendants' appeal of the Court's Order denying their Motion to Stay and Compel Arbitration (Doc. Nos. 52, 55).

**SO ORDERED ADJUDGED AND DECREED.**

Signed: February 27, 2020

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kenneth D. Bell", written over a horizontal line.

Kenneth D. Bell  
United States District Judge

